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California GARDEN

CALIFORNIA
REDWOODS

January 1934

Trees
by Peter D. Barnhart

Dwarf Flowering Eucalypti
by Hugh Evans

Golden Gate Park
by Eric Walther

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OBITUARY

It is with deepest feelings of regret that we have to announce the passing of our worthy vice-president, Walter Birch. Mr. Birch had long been identified with the San Diego Floral Association in all its activities—having served as vice-president for several years.

His knowledge of horticulture and floriculture was freely given to us all and his courtesy and assistance in all problems connected with the members of the society could always be depended upon. The monthly articles he contributed to the magazine on the seeds to plant, the growing of shrubs, roses and other flowers were timely articles deeply appreciated by the association.

Mr. Birch had resided in San Diego since 1907, and in 1908 acquired an interest in the Harris Seed Company of which he was president for the past twenty years. Prior to coming to San Diego he was a wheat farmer in Western Canada, but the urge to escape the winters of the Canadian climate induced him to try his luck in Southern California where he engaged in growing deciduous fruits at Escondido from 1892 to 1898. Leaving there for Riverside, California, he engaged in the citrus industry for sixteen years, finally arriving in San Diego, where he was a successful seedsman for twenty-five years, retaining the confidence of all with whom he had dealings.

At a special meeting of the Board of Directors of the San Diego Floral Association held January 2, 1934, the following resolution was spread upon the minutes:

Whereas, The San Diego Floral Association has suffered a very definite loss in the death of Mr. Walter Birch, Sr., which occurred December 24, 1933, and

Whereas, Mr. Birch has been closely associated with the Floral Association for many years as a member of the Board of Directors and Vice President of the Association, and

Whereas, During his connection with our Association he has given cheerfully and unsparingly of his time and effort to further its interest, and as a member of the Association as well as in his personal and business connections his efforts to further and develop the floral life of San Diego have been consistent and valuable, and

Whereas, We feel his passing to be a distinct personal loss to each one of us as well as to the community at large and his place impossible to adequately fill, therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the Board of Directors of the San Diego Floral Association, express our sorrow and regret at the passing of our Vice President and brother Director, and that we send a copy of these Resolutions to Mrs. Birch and to his family with an expression of our deepest sympathy, and further, that we cause copies to be spread upon the records of the Association and sent to the daily press of our city.

Mrs. Mary Greer, President.
Miss Alice Halliday,
Mrs. Robert Harrison,
Miss K. O. Sessions,
Mr. Erskine Campbell,
Mr. R. R. McLean,

December Meeting

To those of us who think of landscape architecture as applicable to large gardens only, the scholarly talk presented by Roland S. Hoyt at the December meeting of the Floral Association was enlightening. Mr. Hoyt, who has recently published a garden manual, "Planting List for Southern California", planned his talk with as much apparent care as he would devote to the gardens he described. He recommended a balanced design. Paths should lead somewhere. Benches and seats should be placed in protected nooks. The use of fountains and colored pottery in small gardens should be discouraged—at least, kept to a minimum. Large trees and shrubs are difficult to work into a design. Flowering plants should be grouped together in masses and not spread hit and miss all over the garden. Certain plants (like gladioli) should be grown apart, if wanted, and not included in the garden plan.

Some years ago the writer heard Miss Sessions say that the time would come when builders of homes must confer with the landscape architect regarding the placing of such utilities as water pipes, sidewalks, clothes lines, garages, etc., and at that time there was some disagreement. It was, therefore, gratifying to hear Mr. Hoyt affirm this statment and further aver that the time has come.

A manual from his gifted pen on the planning of the small garden would keep his fine ideas before us and we hope the future will be kind in this respect. C. B. T.

New Hybrid Lilies

Dr. David Griffith Hybridizes Western Lilies.

. . . A Symposium On Rose Pruning

LILY breeding is a side issue at the U. S. Department of Agriculture bulb station at Bellingham, Washington, but Dr. David Griffiths who is in charge of the work, today reported to the Horticultural Section of the American Association for the Advancement of Science meeting at Boston that the Department has bred seven new hybrid lilies which are now being propagated for sale by co-operating commercial growers.

The seven hybrid lilies resulted from the crossing of three species of lilies native to the West Coast—*Lilium humboldti magnificum*, *Lilium pardalinum*, the leopard lily, and *Lilium parryi*. The names of the new hybrids are, Shuksan, Kulshan, Sacajawea, Douglas Ingram, Star of Orient, Peter Puget, and Cyrus Gates. The first five, all crosses between the Humboldt lily and the leopard lily, are already in the hands of nurserymen and are now on sale in limited quantity. Cyrus Gates is another cross of the same two lilies, but was only released to nurserymen this season. Peter Puget is a cross between the leopard lily and the Parry lily.

Much of the work with lilies at the Bellingham station, Dr. Griffiths explains, deals with the problems of propagation or the multiplication of stock. Some varieties of lilies come true from seed, but no hybrids do, consequently other methods of increasing stocks must be resorted to. The bulb station has been experimenting for several years in discovering by comparative tests the best methods of culture and propagation for the various varities of lilies. A new method developed at the stations is that of incubating the bulb scales at a temperature of 75 to 80 degrees Fahrenheit, and a saturated atmosphere.

Each of the seven named varieties, according to Dr. Griffiths, originated from a single seedling which showed a certain desirable combination of characteristics derived from the dissimilar parents. These were propagated at the station until a stock of several thousand bulbs of each was on hand when they were released to nurserymen who grow lilies commercially.

In addition to the seven named varieties already released, the station now has nine other hybrids regarded as desirable which have been named and are now being propagated. Some of these are crosses of the first generation of hybrids from the Humboldt and leopard lilies. Hundreds of hybrids have been brought to flowering and have been discarded because they did not seem desirable or an improvement on existing lilies. A score or more promising new varieties blossomed this year and selections from these probably will be made next season.

The station has been trying to develop new yellow lilies, using *Lilium parryi* as one parent. This lily is a yellow species and the breeders hope to preserve or intensify the yellow and to improve the bloom and the habit of growth of the plants. They already have, Dr. Griffiths reported, new yellow lilies ranging from lemon to a deep glossy orange.

Dr. Griffiths also reported successful crossing of regal lilies with other varieties, crosses with lilies of the speciosum group, and several other miscellaneous hybrids. He also mentioned briefly work with 60 new daffodils, a named seedling of Dutch iris, a few new English iris, and seedlings of crocus and squills.

BOMAREA OLIGANTHA

Oh! what a jade you are. Vigorous of growth, and fair to look upon as you behave in Bard Botanical Garden, Hueneme, Cal. you have lured me on and on, for ten successive years in an effort to grow you in other gardens, and, flirt that you are, you have thrown kisses at me in the most exasperating manner; beckoning me on to another endeavor to please your coquettish disposition. One more trial girl, and if you trifle with my affections this year, we part company forever. P. D. B.

When Doctors Disagree

The question of when and how to prune roses was the topic for the February meeting of the San Diego Rose Society. The president, Forrest Hieatt, quoted many opinions from English authorities wherein some advised light and others heavy pruning. Some recommended hard pruning for finer roses and light pruning for quantity. Others claimed that light pruning produced larger and better quality. Being somewhat confused the writer spied several rosarians present and decided that the best way to get real information on our local pruning situation was to have each write his or her methods of rose pruning and here they are. F. L. Lane of Chula Vista who won the bronze medal for roses in arrangements at the last show says, "We prune, in the main, 'light.' Durthe last of January or first of February." George Beech who won the silver medal for sweepstakes, gives his opinion very forcefully, "As I want roses every day in the year, I prune continually. Keep all old wood and small branches cut out. And I have had roses every day from bushes over two years old." Miss Etta Schweieder who grows all flowers in perfection says, "I prune perpetually and have roses all the year round." J. J. Flint says, "I try to prune a little all of the time but cut out the main old growth in January when dormant." Forrest Hieatt whose fame as a grower of lovely roses is nation wide, believes that roses are the most sensitive plants in the garden spending its time producing flowers in order to perpetuate itself.

That some types need heavy pruning and others light. He says to give roses plenty of water and food, then says, "I prune on Ground Hog Day, February 2, lightly on most varieties." C. G. Tanner very tersely sums up the problem thus, "I believe in keeping as much foliage on the plant as possible as the roots get their life from the foliage." To date we are not sure whether our confused state is cured or not. C. B. T.

Trees . . . . .

By PETER D. BARNHART

. . . *Planting of Adapted Varieties Essential to Success*

THE thought I have in mind at this time on the subject, Trees, is to point out some of the errors made in their use in landscape adornment. There seems to be an impression on the mind of many men who plant trees, that all trees indigneous to the Temperate Zone will thrive anywhere in that zone, which is an erroneous idea.

As a rule, trees native of the Atlantic coast are unhappy if brought to the Pacific coast, planted in the same parallel of Latitude, and at the same elevation above sea level. I'm not thinking of the Desert lands when speaking of the Pacific coast, particularly that part of it south of San Francisco. The thought must be kept in mind that climatic conditions on this coast are as variable as they are on the Atlantic coast between Maine and Florida. However, climate is a subject which shall be given consideration at another time, in the columns of this journal. Now then let us look at some of the misfits, native of the East, which have been brought here and used for street tree planting. Go to Beverly Hills and look at an avenue planted with Silver Maple—*Acer dasycarpum* (not the Scarlet Swamp Maple of the southern states)—and see what an unhappy lot of trees line that avenue. The marvelous thing about that planting is that in spite of the fact that the first planting of years ago showed distress, the planting has been continued by men who should have noticed the error, and ceased using the tree in later years. Under favorable conditions the life of a tree should be a century of time. We are told by men who are supposed to know, that our Redwoods have stood the storms of forty centuries. This thought leads us to say that these same Redwoods are brought to this Southland by enthusiasts who admire their beauty in their native heath, and planted; some as avenue trees, others in parks, to lead a miserable existence in our desiccated summer climate.

We will now turn our attention to the trees which, after a half century of experimenting, have proved their worth as street trees and for parks, where water in scarce, and costly. Our native Coast Live Oak, *Quercus agrifolia,* the one species par excellent for the purposes named. In very truth if water be applied to this tree during the summer months, mildew attacks the new growth, disfigures the tree, and stunts it in growth. In my travels over this Southland, I see this subject being used more and more extensively for avenue planting. Even so, the caretakers of those trees seem to be ignorant of their requirements, and will persist in watering them, even though they, the trees, show their distress with mildewed limbs. In next issue of this publication I shall give readers my method of growing Live Oaks. The next tree of importance for this Southland is the Carob, or as it is generally known as St. John's Bread. *Ceratonia Siliqua.* A native of S. Europe it fits perfectly into the scheme of things on this coast. Drouth resistant as is the Live Oak, it is a thing of beauty, and *utility.* A diecious subject, fruitful trees must be propagated by budding. Incidentally I wish to say that Armstrong Nurseries of Ontario, this state, make a specialty of growing fruitful trees. It has been found that the beans vary in the amount of sugar content, from 25 to 35 per cent.

Time was in this state when horses were in use, instead of autos, that Carob Bean meal was fed to the animals, to produce a glossy coat of hair. When we get wise to the possibilities of the dry places of this Southland (and God knows we have plenty such places), we shall plant them to Carob trees, and grow the beans for stock and poultry feed, with profit. No mistake about that in my mind. Then, too, the trees will clothe the brown hills with verdure. Readers of these lines may say: "Oh, but that man is a dreamer." Even so, out of dreams have been born most of our knowledge of the practical things of life.

The Pepper Tree is another subject which merits our attention when discussing trees for this land, which, in its primitive condition, was DESERT. It is a native of Peru, where rain is even less than with us. *Schinus Molle* is its botanic name. Another species of this same family is found among us, but it comes from Brazil, where rain is abundant, therefore, to do its best it must have water. The specific name of this tree is *Terebinthifolius.* Incidentally I wish to say at this time, it is being extensively grown in Honolulu for Christmas berries. And how it does luxuriate on those mountain sides, where rain falls almost every day. Diecious trees, the female of the species, are gorgeous when loaded with racemes of red berries.

Acacias are beautiful beyond description when in bloom, even the foliage is attractive in appearance, but he who plants them must make up his mind to replace them after a quarter century. That is about the length of life of the majority of the species, except perhaps the species *Pruinosa.* No use to bother with *A. tomentosa* in this climate.

Joyce Kilmer pays a beautiful tribute to Trees in the following lines:

"I think that I shall never see
A poem lovely as a tree.
A tree whose hungry mouth is prest
Against the earth's sweet flowing breast;
A tree that looks at God all day,
And lifts her leafy arms to pray;
A tree that may in Summer wear
A nest of robins in her hair;
Upon whose bosom snow has lain;
Who intimately lives with rain.
Poems are made by fools like me,
But only God can make a tree."

Call For Peat Moss and Top Soil

When J. I. Jerebek made his strong appeal for donations of top soil or leaf mold for the Session's Agave and Aloe gardens in Balboa park, at the last meeting of the Floral Association there were many who resolved to respond but it was Dewey Kelley who first brought his gift of several bags of leaf mold and it is hoped that others will find it possible to get more now that the Christmas rush is over. Thanks, Mr. Kelly!

Dwarf Flowering Eucalypti and Rare Grevilleas

By HUGH EVANS

. . . .Recent Introductions Adapted to Southern Californian Conditions

WE in California in my opinion, have not paid enough attention to the dwarf growing brilliant flowered Eucalypti of which there a number of species recently introduced into this country. They are so particularly well adapted to park and garden work, even to small gardens, that they should be used to a much larger extent than they are. The following species we have bloomed at our place the last two years.

Eucalyptus Caesia—a dwarf weeping Eucalyptus, rough russet brown trunk, white limbs and branches, long narrow grey leaves which droop gracefully on long pendulous branches which are literally covered with large clusters of good sized pink flowers with yellow anthers. The branches hang in very beautiful festoons down to the ground. An extremely graceful and beautiful tree.

Eucalyptus erythrocorys — stronger and erecter growing species than E. caesia; white trunk; flower buds which grow in clusters are a brilliant scarlet with large golden blooms.

Eucalyptus pyreiformis—slender growing dwarf tree, good sized drooping clusters of very large crimson flowers with golden anthers. These flowers frequently measure three inches across. A very beautiful and spectacular tree and quite distinct.

Eucalyptus Steedmanii—Small weeping tree with beautiful golden yellow flowers, this species has only recently been discovered.

We have six or seven other species which have not yet bloomed with us but which we are looking forward to seeing in flower I am convinced that as these particular kinds become better known they will be extensively planted. Owing to the fact that they do not attain the size and girth and spread of so many of the older kinds, they will not prove a detriment to the garden and robbers of soil that the varieties ordinarily encountered have been.

The Grevillea family is another one which has been very much neglected in this country.

Grevillea thelemanniana is to my mind one of the most attractive of our small flowering shrubs and the specimens growing in Miss Session's garden are an object lesson as to the treatment they require.

Grevillea obtusifolia is an evergreen trailing shrub, makes a wonderful ground cover and has a bloom very similar to G. thelemanniana; a splendid thing trailing down banks and rockeries.

Grevillea rosmarinaefolia is a bushy, compact growing species, very deep green foliage rather like a Rosemary from which it derives its name, and covered with racemes of pink and white flowers.

Grevillea paniculata, evergreen shrub with a spreading bushy habit. In the spring is a perfect sheet of feathery white flowers. With us it blooms more or less on and off throughout the year.

All these four Grevilleas are particularly well adapted to our gardens. I am inclined to think the majority of Grevilleas do better where the soil is not too heavy and where the drainage is good.

I saw a planting of young trees of four or five of these varieties recently in Santa Barbara and they were extremely beautiful. They require little or no attention but repay any extra care which is given to them.

New Dwarf Flowering
Eucalypti
from Western Australia
some times bloom when only 18 months old. Particularly beautiful and desirable.
EVANS GARDENS
501 24th Street,
Santa Monica, California

Something New

By Bertha M. Thomas

Last summer a plant collector and dealer of Los Angeles brought me a new treasure with a pretty little legend connected with it. A peasant in Italy had found it growing in a secluded place and there being none other like it, the plant with such beautiful cordate leaves and handsome double yellow blossoms was presented to the Pope. It grew and bloomed here for years but of course unseen except by a favored few. Then one day one of the gardeners found a way to steal a root, wishing that the common people might see this wonderful plant. It was brought to America and now, after a little more history, I was presented with this root.

It grew splendidly and soon bloomed, but the blooms were not double. I repotted and fed it heavily but still they came single although fairly large, about 2 inches across. All its characteristics reminded me of the Marsh Marigold of our creeks and rivers of Illinois, my childhood home, although these wild ones were much smaller. So I had a "consultation" with our everabiding and always helpful library friend Bailey and he tells us there are other varieties than the common ones. He names this variety Monstrosa and says it is often double, and the leaves somewhat different.

At any rate, the plant is of handsome habit, good bloomer and best of all, has bloomed all fall and winter and helped so much to make the pools look cheerful, while they have no other winter blooming companions except the Hawthorne. The Marigold is a bog plant, and I keep the roots just nicely under water. Whether this large variety ever saw the Pope's garden or not is not essential but it does now look as if it would make us a good winter bloomer for the water pools, and we can only hope it will condescend later to give us some double blooms—perhaps after it gets better acquainted. And really you must believe the story of the plant, because I read the letter which told of how it was sent from this friend who had received it from another friend across the ocean.

Golden Gate Park, San Francisco

By ERIC WALTHER

. . . Its Horticultural and Botanical Aspects

IN spite of its relatively small size, San Francisco always has been considered a real metropolis, largely of course because of the many sided nature of its people, not only in regards to race, nationality or origin, but also on account of their truly cosmopolitan culture. This last finds expression in many diverse ways, in vocation, avocation, entertainment, etc., and last, but not least, in that civic consciousness which led to the creation of one of the country's finest Civic Centers, made possible the artistic success of a real international exposition during a time of world-wide war, and also had enough courage to envision the creation of one of the world's finest public parks on a site once reported to be wholly unsuited to even mere human habitation.

To merely reclaim the waste of shifting sand-dunes once covering the western half our city alone was an achievement, but to transform this area into the beauty spot of world-wide fame our park actually has become is an outstanding accomplishment ranking first among the many San Francisco may be proud of. It seems quite fitting that here, where commercial flower-growing is rapidly becoming one of the most important local industries, where the most colorful contribution to our street-life are the many flower-sellers offering their wares along the curb, ornamental horticulture should reach its zenith in our well-beloved Golden Gate Park.

In the course of this horticultural experiment of the first rank which the making of our park constituted, many different plants were tried, to find those best adapted to thrive under the most adverse conditions imaginable, such as a soil composed wholly of barren beachsand, a rainless period of over six months' duration, and cutting summerwinds of an average velocity of around 20 miles an hour. Many of these of course failed, but more did survive, and they today serve to make our park something more than just a playground and breathing-space, something of a botanic garden in fact. Over 4,000 species and varieties are growing here today by actual count, from nearly all the various floral provinces of the globe. From Australia's coral-strand to Greenland's icy shores, plant-immigrants have found their way here, the whole assemblage making a most impressive lesson in plant-geography, scientific classification, the multitudinous manifestations of the primal life-force, or the unescapable fact of evolution.

That all this heterogenous mass of plant-material is here combined into a harmonious whole speaks volumes for the skilled artistry of John McLaren, the park's creator, whose finished work has been most aptly likened to a "Symphony in Green."

Space is lacking for a detailed discussion of the many interesting and beautiful spots found in this refreshing oasis amongst the city's asphalt and concrete, but none who have been fortunate to visit our park in May or June will soon forget the glory of our many-hued Rhododendrons, or the intimate charm of the Japanese Tea-garden at cherry-blossom-time, or the deep impression left on the esthetic susceptibility by one glimpse of, say, the gaunt white limbs of even our prosaic Blue-gum reaching to heaven through the driven sea-fog.

Where San Diego's Rainfall Originates

Dean Blake, Weather Bureau

A study of the storms in San Diego Diego County during the last five years shows their origin to be of one of four types, arbitrarily designated the North Pacific, the South Pacific, the Interior and the Mexican.

North Pacific Type

Disturbances of this group are responsible for at least half of the rainfall in the county. They originate over the northeast Pacific ocean and move eastward. However, with the approach of winter their trend is southward, and southern California normally comes within the precipitation area in November. After March, when they again move northward, the rain from this source diminishes rapidly.

South Pacific Type

Occasionally low pressure areas form near our coast and pass inland. Storms of this character produce about 15 per cent of our total precipitation, and occur from November to March only. They move rapidly, travelare most unwelcome. singly, and, when accompanied by easterly winds, cause heavy snowfall in our mountains.

Interior Type

Storms in this category have their breeding place over the Great Basin, and their development and subsequent movement is erratic and hard to predict. Nearly one third of our rain is the result of this type. They are most frequent from February to May, and are largely responsible for our spring rains.

Mexican Type

Only a small per cent can be traced to disturbances of this group. They originate in the tropics off the west coast of Mexico, move northward and arrive here when fruits are ripening or drying. Summer thunderstorms in the mountains may be classed in this type. Sometimes torrential rains result, but fortunately they are sporadic. Storms from this source are limited to the late summer and fall months, and

The Second Annual Meeting of the California Garden Club Federation

MUCH enthusiasm was displayed throughout the meeting of the California Garden Club Federation at Monterey, October 20, 21 and 22nd. All districts in the State were represented by members and prominent horticulturists who gathered at Hotel Del Monte on Friday, numbering altogether 122.

Beautiful flowers filled the lobby—among them were rare fuchsias, South African gems, and a striking bloom of *Rhodostachys pitcairnifolia*. After registration, the members and guests were entertained at luncheon in the Memory Garden of Monterey—a garden, converted from a bear and bull fight pit of 85 years ago. During the afternoon, the nurseries and hotel grounds were visited before returning to attend the committee gatherings and a conference of the Board of Directors and State Chairmen. In the evening, members listened to the informal talks of Mr. Frank Cuthbertson of San Francisco on "Sweet Pea and Other Seed Novelties and Opportunities of Garden Clubs" and Mr. Frank McCoy of Santa Maria, on "The Chelsea Show and California Flora in England." In the same room there was a remarkable display of native Monterey flora—that had been gathered with much care by Mr. Robert Clark MacChesney.

The business meeting, Saturday morning, after the election of the nominating committee was given over to the reports of the State Chairmen of the Standing Committees. They were most illuminating and the time allotted not long enough for the interest of the members.

Mr. John D. Wright of Santa Barbara, Chairman of the Roadside Beautification Committee, proposed a resolution which was carried, recommending the appointment of a State landscape engineer for California. He called attention to the fact that the billboard law regulating outdoor signs goes into effect February 22nd, 1934. He explained what signs and structures would then be illegal and how the members could assist in their removal. He urged the members to make use of the State Beautification Plan containing California horticultural data and bibliography which the Federation is completing for program material and study.

Mrs. Walter Duval of Santa Paula, chairman of the Legislation Committee, in her enumeration of the resolutions adopted by the National Council of State Garden Club Federations, announced the full co-operation of the California Garden Club Federation; 1st, in advocating the replacement of Nature Education in the school systems of the State; 2nd, in asking General Hugh Johnson, head of the NRA, to confine his advertising campaign to commercial areas only; 3rd, in writing Mr. Lee Strong, head of the Bureau of Plant Quarantine at Washington, D. C., of our desire to support our national President, Mrs. F. Joel Swift of New York, who attended the conference on Quarantine Bill 37, on October 25th in her efforts toward a relaxation of the quarantine in order that new and rare plants may be brought into this country.

The Conservation Chairman, Mrs. F. A. Lewis of Roseville, Placer County, announced that her committee had been completed by district and was compiling data concerning habitat of native flora, establishing sanctuaries, and obtaining cuts or photographs of historical trees. She expressed gratification that a further protection to our native flora had been gained with the aid of the Federation in securing the passage of Senate Bill 64.

The Editor of Golden Gardens, Miss Charlotte M. Hoak, told how the magazine in gathering and disseminating the necessary articles was fulfilling California's need for her own horticultural information and cultural directions. The October issue was made a Monterey souvenir as it contained articles on Monterey flora by three prominent horticulturists and club members of the locality.

Mrs. F. A. Rivinius of Altadena, Chairman of Pilgrimage Committee, asked for the privilege of listing gardens to be visited entirely at the owner's convenience in the "Locater" which her committee is compiling.

Mention was made by Mr. H. M. Butterfield, Chairman of Flower Show Juding Committee, of the Second Judging and Flower Show Appreciation Course to be held in Los Angeles, during November.

The lecture hall was then crowded by those eager to listen to Dr. T. H. Goodspeed, Professor of Botany, University of California, Berkeley, speak on "Plant Hunters in Western China and Tibet and Their Introductions," and Dr. Herbert Mason, Curator of the Herbarium, University of California, Berkeley, on "The Paleo-Botanical History of the Monterey Forests."

Saturday afternoon was given over to garden visiting and participation in a delightful tea given by Miss Helen Davis, at Asilomar.

In the evening came the dinner party of the Federation. Mrs. Slosson, President, presented Mr. William Fiddes, President of the Monterey Peninsula Garden Club, who gave a special greeting to those assembled. Mrs. Slosson, responding, told of the progress of the Federation, their alliance with the Royal Horticultural Society, the American Horticultural Society, the American Civic Association, the California Council for the Protection of Roadside Beauty. She related how the State Garden Club Federations had spread over the country, embracing 35 States. The California Federation is a member of the National Council and will be their hostess State during the 1935 annual meeting, with headquarters at Los Angeles.

A delightful rendition of garden songs was given by Mr. Frank Towner of San Jose, accompanied by Dr. Charles Richards.

Miss Charlotte M. Hoak, one of the State's noted horticulturists, then gave her address on the "Introduction of Monterey Flora to the Botanic Gardens of the World,"—illustrated by the beautiful autochrome slides of Mr. Frank Ford.

Upon adjournment to the lounge, the Question Box was opened by Mr. Charles Adams of South Pasadena, who joined with the other prominent horticulturists present, Dr. Adele Lewis Grant, Lester Rowntree, Howard Gilkey and Charlotte Hoak, in answering the questions.

Arrangement of Floral Exhibits

By PETER D. BARNHART

. . . *Distinction Should Score 20%*

DEAR EDITOR:
Is there a garden enthusiast who does not (secretly) covet a blue ribbon when he enters a display at a Flower Show? And, were it possible for exhibitors to "listen in" during the judging and hear the pointed comments of experienced judges, we believe the result would be keener competition and a higher standard of exhibits in our numerous Flower Shows.

We refer now, to the different classes usually offered for flower arrangements, as those of the specimen classes must always be judged by prescribed standards which are (probably) understood by the exhibitors. Horticultural perfection is not, however, absolutely essential in the arrangement of an artistic composition. Neither can mere quantities of flowers win the ribbons. In her recent book, "The Arrangement of Flowers," Mrs. Walter R. Hine who, as a member of the Garden Club of America, has been a consistent winner of "firsts" at the International Flower Shows in New York, declares that "balance and proportion in flower arrangement are the touchstones of success . . . by the use of certain simple rules, fewer flowers can achieve more varied and lovelier effects . . . Most amateurs use enough plant material in one vase to make half a dozen compositions of far more beauty and artistic merit than the displayed exhibit may possess.

Mrs. Hines' excellent book (published by Charles Scribner and Sons, 1933) is not only profusely illustrated with lovely prize-winning flower arrangements and many suggested examples of well-chosen flower containers, but she also offers the following scale of points for the judging of flower compositions:

1. Distinction 20%.
2. Relation of flowers to container 20%.
3. Color harmony 20%.
4. Proportion 20%.
5. Perfection of arrangement 20%.

By "Distinction," which stands first upon Mrs. Hine's list, she does not mean mere originality, "but that indefinable something that raises a composition above the commonplace or merely pretty, and sets it in a plane above. It is compounded of all the qualities that go to make the satisfying arrangement . . . good color, nice choice of material thoughtfully combined in an appropriate container, plus a certain sense of fitness, and a sure knowledge of *when to stop*. So many people inexperienced in this art, seem to think that the more beauty one can cram into a vase, the more apt it is to attain artistic merit, while quite the contrary is true . . . Distinction may be the result of an unusual color scheme well carried out; or a simple, apparently unstudied effect may have great charm in the proper setting. A composition of one kind of flower with its own foliage may possess distinction by virtue of its restraint, but it must then be one of very fine color, and exceptional beauty and character of form. An arrangement made up of a combination of colors, if well thought out and carefully executed, has more chance for distinction than an arrangement of any one color. However, although a composition for a flower show may be forgiven faults of arrangement, proportion and color harmony, yet if it lacks *distinction*, this is (or should be) fatal!"

At this point in her book, Mrs. Hines pauses to suggest that, when it is known that the judges of a flower show will all be men, "make your exhibit *red* and *big*." And in regard to the use of colors, another expert in this line of art explains that red which is the color of the center of fire, stimulates and animates; yellow suggests the luminosity of the sun and affects the nerves, while blue gives a feeling of coolness and is soothing.

After explaining and describing the essential characteristics of the Japanese flower arrangements, the Victorian, French and Modernistic, Mrs. Hines declares that the majority of satisfying arrangements when analyzed, usually are found to be based (perhaps unconsciously) upon the standards of balance and proportion established by the Japanese; once and a half the height of a tall container, or when a low container has been used, the arrangement will stand once and a half the diameter of the bowl.

There should be strong lines at the base of the composition because this aids in its stability and balance; also balance without perfect symmetry; no crossing of leaves or branches; an uneven number of sprays, large leaves or flowers; no large flowers on exactly the same level; nor should these be placed directly above one another. Avoid combinations which are illogical either culturally or seasonally and use only sufficient plant material to create the desired picture, for which you must make sure that this material is in the best of condition.

When the arrangement is completed do not forget that a "judicious pruning of branches, leaves and even flowers will add enormously to its beauty. All crowded or superflous material should be carefully cut away, leaving a clear-cut outline of the most beautiful sprays. Remove enough from the mass of the composition to avoid any impression of crowding or stodginess . . . then, and only then, will the full value and beauty of each leaf, stem, flower and bud, show to advantage.

Mr. Editor, let's all practice these excellent suggestions before we enter our next exhibits at a flower show.

Cordially yours,
RUTH R. NELSON,
Rancho Santa Fe.

NEW ROSE FEATURED

The Mrs. J. D. Eiselle rose, which during the past year has won three gold medal awards, was the feature of the annual five-day fall flower and rose show held in the administration building at the Howard & Smith nursery in Montebello, November 24 to 28. Thousands of roses in artistic basket and vase arrangements, as well as individual specimens, delighted visitors. There was an interesting preview showing of a number of new unnamed seedlings.

A large exhibit of a new strain of ever-blooming hybrid carnations proved another attraction. These carnations were offered in a number of new color effects, including a deep purple and an ash, as well as bicolored varieties of strange hues.

—Los Angeles Times.

California Horticultural College

. . . *Prominent Horticulturists Enthusiastic Over Proposal*

LEADERS in better floriculture and gardens are behind this movement. Very warm and immediate has been the response to the proposed horticultural college of Southern California.

"California horticulture," said Dr. Charles S. Sargent, some twenty years ago, "is a thing apart, the garden practice is different utterly from that of the east, the behavior of plants is different—it's like learning another language.

Nowhere is there more interest in gardening than in California, nowhere are astonishing results so rapidly attained. In California the home is not the house, it's the house and garden—and in many cases the garden comes first.

This horticultural college, which will begin with the collaboration and aid of men and women of high repute in a fairly wide variety of horticultural interests will, so far as possible, fit classes and time schedules to the multifarious garden interests of those within its radius. Gardening in California is not only diverse, it is highly specialized. This horticultural college has no idea of being "all things to men" rather it is to be to the garden and flower-loving public, as a conservatory of music is to musicians which provides some general training in harmony and music appreciation but the student studies his specialty as the violin. The devotee of cacti, succulents or aquatics may work with his specialty.

The project has the warm approval of Dr. L. H. Bailey, and in fact, the personnel as much as the plan was discussed with him five years ago. Dr. Horace McFarland, president of the American Rose Society, is a member of the advisory board and thinks the possibilities of rose-growing in California have hardly been scratched. Miss Kate Sessions of San Diego writes that "It is like seeing a plan of mine come true. I cannot stress too strongly the immense possibilities of horticulture in California. It may be and should be the world center. Think what other countries achieve under the difficulties of colder climate." Charles Francis Saunders has promised co-operation. Mr. William Hertrich of Huntington Gardens says he will help "in any way I can"; also Roma Coolidge Mulvihill will aid in plant material and is deeply interested. Dr. Stillman Berry of Redlands, W. I. Beecroft of Jesmond Dene, Mrs. Robert Samuels, Dr. Jacolyn Manning, Mrs. E. E. Coles, Harry Johnson of Hynes, whose water gardens are so admirably displayed in Chicago; Mrs. Ellen Rooksby, editor of the magazine "Desert." These are a few.

"A splendid conception," says Charles Gibbs Adams, who gives it a hearty endorsement. Miss Florence Yoch, whose work has so enriched Pasadena gardens, is of the advisory board. Clyde Hadry, Edna Betts Ketchum, Alice Koons of the Times, are of the group.

The course in creative horticulture —its history and practice will attract many.

The project has the co-operation of Pasadena Junior College, and parts of the campus not now of any particular use, are to be the scene of much of its activities.

GOD AND MY GARDEN

It is a new book on Gardening, written by Margaret E. Sangster. It is wholly different from any other book treating the same subject. Her experience in the Art of Gardening was on the roof of an eighteen story house in New York. To be sure it was a small garden, and what she has to say on the subject of growing plants is amusing to the professional gardener, but her observations led her into the realms of the spiritual life of humanity, and she gave expression to some of the most sublime thoughts in print. One chapter bears the title: Secret Gardens from which I quote a paragraph or two. "When I am watering plants and pulling weeds and thinning out overgrowth; when I am planting new seedlings and trans-planting old ones, I find that my mind is often far away from my pent house roof. I find that I am wandering through a secret garden of my soul's making. The secret garden is one that has never grown on earth, and never will. It is a garden so dear that it could only grow in the heart's own heaven!

Each one of us, whether we are actual gardeners or not—whether we realize it or not—has a secret garden!" Publishers, Round Table Press, New York.

THE JANUARY MEETING

The uses of peat moss in gardening was the subject of a talk by H. O. Kettner at the meeting of the San Diego Floral Association, held January 16. Mr. Kettner will demonstrate how to mix peat moss with heavy and light soils.

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Mrs. T. Denio, 2538 F Street.

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